(d) whether the Government have proposal to make a comprehensive automobile policy; if so, by when; and

(e) what are the salient features of the proposed policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Automotive Component Manufacturer Association (ACMA) has represented to the Government about the increasing trade in the spurious auto parts in the country which is posing a threat to public safety and human life.

(c) Government has taken a number of measures by way of delicensing of auto ancillary industry, broadbanding, re-endorement of capacities etc. and has also encouraged rapid modernisation and induction of new technology in this sector. Certain fiscal Concessions have also been granted for the import of sub-components for the manufacture of components for fuel efficient vehicles. It is expected that these measures would encourage the production of quality components, and with better availability and more competition in the market, the sale of spurious and substandard parts would go down.

(d) and (e) The proposal to formulate a comprehensive automobile policy is under consideration of the Government.

White Paper on Public Sector Units

1486. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a group of Chief Executives of public sector units has been constituted to prepare a white paper on the public sector units; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) and (b) An informal group of Chief Executives of Steel Authority of India Ltd., State Trading Corporation, Oil & Natural Gas Commission, Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilisers Ltd., Indian Petrochemicals Ltd. and Coal India Ltd. are attempting the first draft as a part of a joint effort of the Government along with Chief Executives to prepare white paper.

1487. [*Transferred to the 7th May, 1987*].

Refund of Deposits from motor vehicle Dealers

1488. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prospective buyers of motor vehicles are asked to deposit a certain amount for booking of such vehicle with the dealer;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof vehicle-wise;

(c) whether it has any legal sanction;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the amount deposited for such booking is not refunded back immediately on cancellation of booking with the dealer; and

(e) if so, what are the reasons therefor and what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) In many cases vehicle manufacturers receive advance deposits of specified amounts against booking of specific models of their vehicles.

(b) Advance deposits taken by some of the manufacturers are as under:

	Rs.
1. Hindustan Motors Ltd. (Contessa Classic) Passenger Car . . .	10,000
2. Maruti Uyyog Ltd. (Passenger Car) . . .	10,000
3. Standard Motors products of India Ltd. (Passenger Car)	25,000
4. Lohia Machines Ltd. (Scooter) . . .	500
5. Bajaj Auto Ltd. (Scooter 150cc)	500

(c) Any advance money received against orders for the supply of goods are exempted from the definition of 'Deposits' as per rule 2(b) (vi) of the Companies (Acceptance of Deposit) Rules, 1975 framed under Section 58A of the Companies Act, 1956.

(d) and (e) There are instances of delay in refunding the deposit money of customers. Government have issued guidelines to all manufacturers advising them to arrange early refund of deposits. Government have also taken up with manufacturers the complaints received in individual cases.

Residential Accommodation in Uran

1489. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC have shortage of residential accommodation in Uran in Maharashtra where drilling operations at Bombay High are in full swing;

(b) if so, what are the total units of residential accommodation required by the ONGC at Uran for their employees; and

(c) what steps are being taken to build residential units by the ONGC at Uran and whether Government propose to take the assistance of private parties also and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present requirement of residential accommodation for the employees of ONGC at Uran is 556 flats.

(c) ONGC at present has residential colonies consisting of 142 flats at Uran and 264 flats at Belapur. In addition to this, a township is being developed at Panvel where 1479 residential flats will be available by March, 1988. This will meet the present and future requirement of Uran and different institutes that are planned at Panvel. ONGC has been taking the assistance from private bodies to acquire residential flats on lease basis.

Price increase of medicines

1490. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1488 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the price increase in the case of medicines is much higher than in case of other commodities;

(b) what are the names of the drugs on which wholesale price index is based;

(c) how many of these drugs have become obsolete;

(d) what was the production of each drug during the last three years, yearwise;

(e) whether it is also a fact that most of the drugs fall under Category I and II of Drugs Price Control Order;

(f) if so, name of category under which each drug falls;

(g) whether it is also a fact that 50 per cent of the total medicines being sold in the country fall under exempted category;

(h) whether it is also a fact that prices of these medicines went up from 100 per cent to 600 per cent during the last three years; and